



Fix it Once

How Ancestry Successfully Manages
Vulnerabilities in the Cloud through
Amazon Machine Images



Albert
Barlow
1901-1963

Albert T. Barlow
occupation *San Diego*
description is: Color *white*, complexion *fair*
do declare that my per



Me...

DNA Story for Grant Johnson

All the best,

Grant Johnson
62% England, Wales, & Northwestern Europe,
15% Ireland & Scotland
18% Sweden & Norway
5% Germanic Europe

Director, Risk & Compliance
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 **ancestry**
We empower journeys of personal discovery to enrich lives.

Ethnicity Estimate UPDATED

You're viewing the latest update to your ethnicity estimate.
[Learn more about this update.](#)

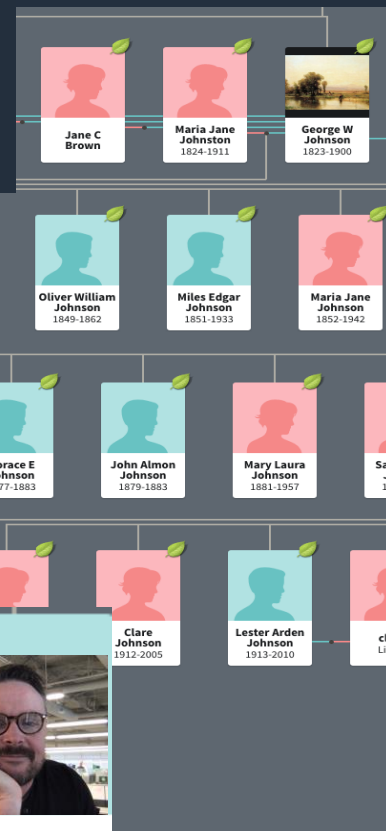
England, Wales & Northwestern Europe	62%	>
Ireland & Scotland	15%	>
Norway	13%	>
Germanic Europe	5%	>
Sweden	5%	>

Additional Communities

-  **Mountain West Mormon Pioneers** >
From your regions: England, Wales & Northwestern Europe; Ireland...
-  **New York Settlers** >
From your regions: England, Wales & Northwestern Europe; Ireland...
-  **Northeastern States Settlers** >
From your regions: England, Wales & Northwestern Europe; Ireland...
-  **Rhode Island & Southeastern Massachusetts Settlers**
-  **Tennessee & Southern States Settlers** >
From your regions: England, Wales & Northwestern Europe; Ireland...



Charles Ellis Johnson
1817-1882



Grant Johnson
Living

About us

We're a science and technology company with a very human mission

- World's largest online collection of family history records - billions & billions
- 3+ million wonderful subscribers
- 100 million family trees
- 10 web properties
- 3 petabytes of data under management



 **ancestry** Academy™

 **ancestry** DNA™

 **ancestry**
Institution™

fold3
by  **ancestry**

 **ancestry** ProGenealogists™


rootsweb
by  **ancestry**

 **Find A Grave**™

Archives™

Newspapers
.com
by  **ancestry**

 **ancestry**™

About us

- DNA kits available in 30+ countries
- 700K genomic markers
- 350 global regions
- Largest DNA repository in the world

Ancestry is founded

1983

Internet site launched

1996

Begin Mitochondrial
DNA Testing

2002

1 million people tested

2015

16 million people tested

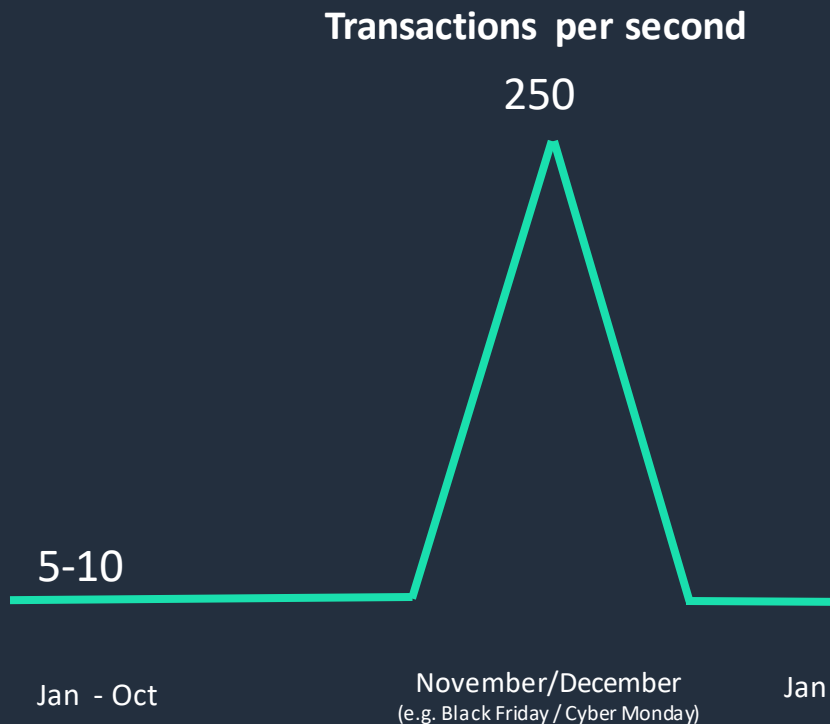
2019

2016

Challenges

Background: Why the Cloud?

- Growth
- Rapid cycle expansion
 - Fast moving, traffic & business cycles
- Resiliency & uptime
 - Multiple global regions
 - Multiple Availability Zones



Tactical Approach to the Cloud



Each stack had to be imaged & rapidly deployable

- Needed to realized resiliency goals – *Can't just lift-and-shift*
- Make use of cloud elasticity and containerization
- More Standardized toolset....

We use and mandate AWS Tags

- Every system needed a NAMED owner or was shutdown

Removed Access

- Separate AWS accounts for Development, Smoke, Production, SOX, and PCI
- Absolutely NO Dev Production Access Results: Huge P1 Incidents!
- IF it is awake, it is **subject to scanning**
- Approved Images (AMI) with Authentication Keys



Challenges

Each stack had to be imaged & rapidly deployable

- Needed to realize resiliency goals –
Can't just lift-and-shift
- Make use of cloud elasticity and containerization
- More standardized toolset

Here is what we did...

- Separate AWS accounts for Development, Smoke, Production, SOX, and PCI
- Absolutely NO Stage or Production access
 Spoiler alert: Huge ↓ P1 incidents!
- IF it is awake, it is subject to scanning
- Approved Images (AMI) with Authentication Keys
- Every system needed a NAMED owner or was shutdown (Qualys to find unnamed servers)

Solution

Approved Images – AMI's

Ancestry required a new way of thinking about servers



Servers are cattle



Not pets

Solution

Don't push patches...patch the AMI



Shut down the old one



Spin up the new one with the new AMI

NO cows were harmed in our AWS migration!

Why Ancestry chooses AWS and Qualys

Why AWS?

- System resiliency
- Rapid elastic expansion
- Supported our rapid growth

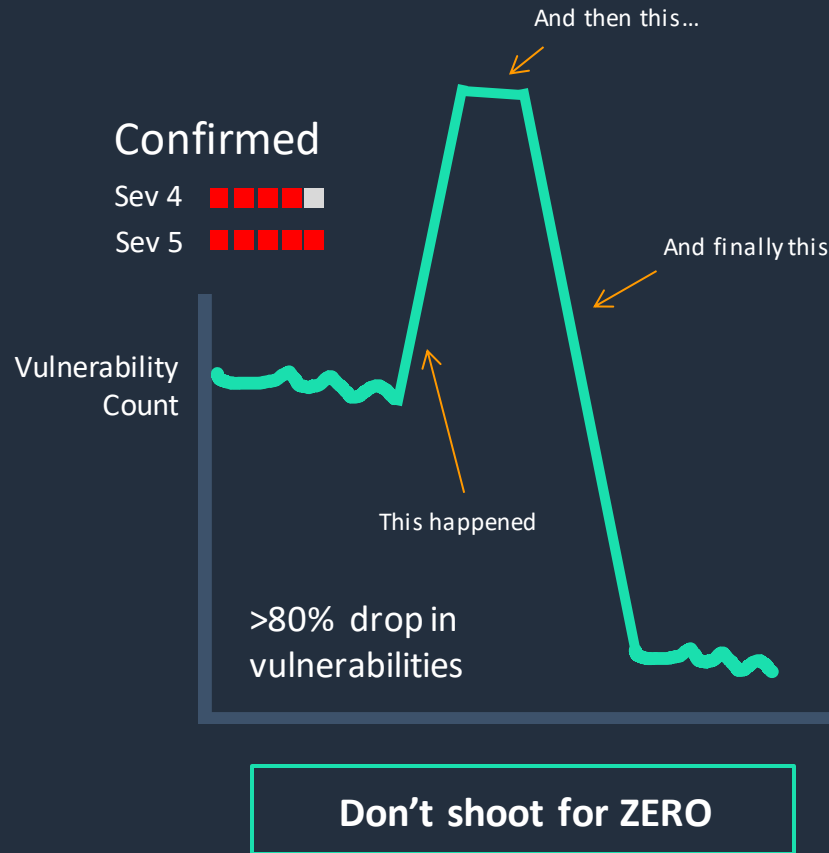
Why Qualys?

- Proven ability to work well with AWS – expanded with our needs
- Virtually maintenance free, once we set up
- The data was accurate – no false positives

Challenges

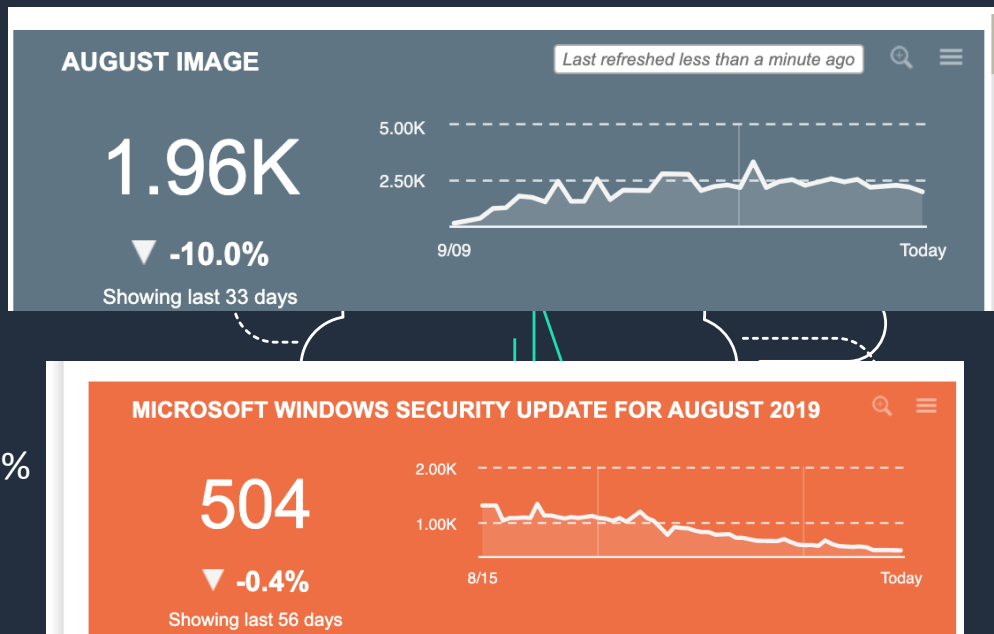
Lessons learned

- Don't get fixated on the count of vulnerabilities
- Buy-in at executive level
- Think operationally – not exceptionally
- KEEP CALM and STICK to the process ... it takes time to work
- Communication and visibility



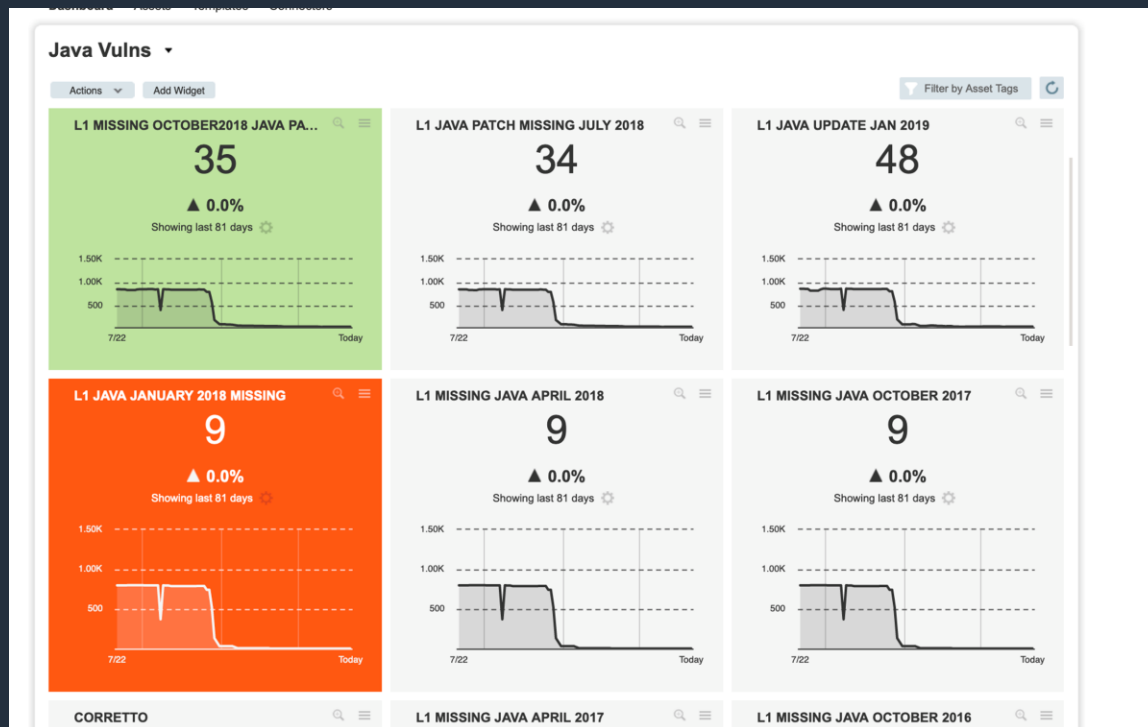
Benefits are awesome

- My ask of Development:
Do one thing. Update the image.
- Forced us to have a more homogeneous platform and process
- Synced security with business goals
- Process seems to be sustainable!
- 76%+ NIX scan are fully authenticated – 99% Windows
- Works for some applications as well



Benefits are awesome

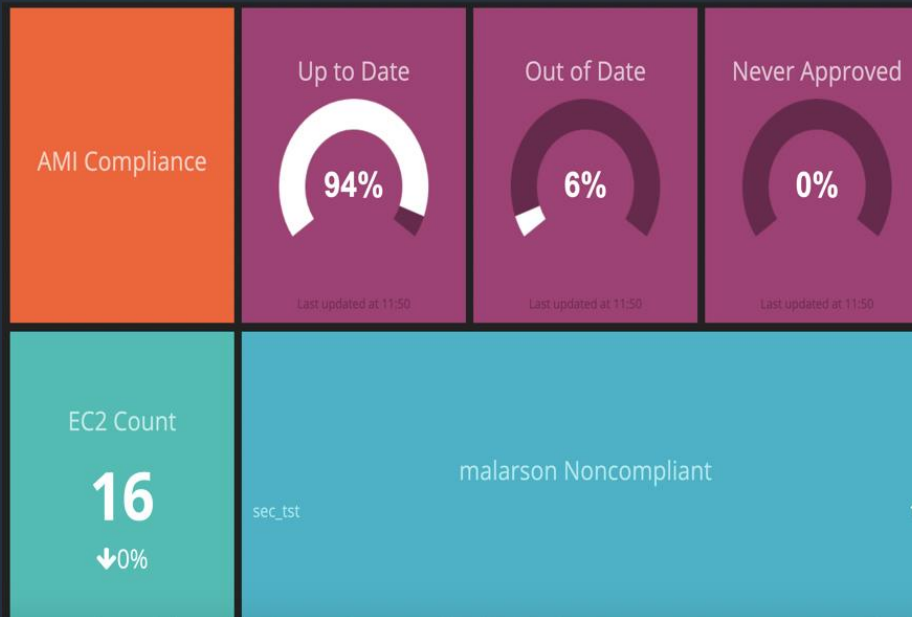
- Works at the application layer as well



Dashboards

Key Metrics

- Use of approved image
- Confirmed 4s & 5s Ageing*
- Number of Vulns Fixed
- Scan coverage - Target 95%
- Authentication Percentage – Target 95%
- Vulnerabilities not fixed by Image



* Aged based on vulnerability release date – pending...

Dashboards

Vulnerabilities NOT FIXED By Image

Vulnerabilities FIXED By Image

Vulnerabilities
WILL BE FIXED
By Image

Owner	Stack
	Null
	Null
	02 jenkins-bigtree
	02 recovery
	02 storageautomat
	02 gko
	02 ss_leg
	Null
02 nrdm	02 dna_f22
	02 dna_ful
01 dnorth@ancest	Null
01 DSands@	02 aop_ga6
	02 aop_g16
	02 aop_gs6
	02 dg_dpl
	02 aops
	02 aop
	02 aop
	02 jenkins-personui
	02 pps_aps
	02 pps_pns
	02 pps_svc
	02 pps_web
	02 datainsights-jenkins
	02 bigtreestitch-stitchw
	02 treeinteractions-j
	02 infrastructu
	Null
ancestry.com	Null
	02 cloud-salt-master
01 mlowe@ancestry.com	Null
	02 aop_chf
	02 aop_g6

Vulnerabilities NOT Fixed by Image (Action Needed)

Count: **53**

Average Age: 102.92

Vulnerability	Host Name	Age	Sev	Detection Source	Solution
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	39	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1244 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1244/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	39	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1246 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1246/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	18	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1254 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1254/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	161	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1180 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1180/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	18	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1258 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1258/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	81	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1223 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1223/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	18	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1255 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1255/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	39	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1239 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1239/)
Amazon Linux Security A..	i-07f490f29ad9c5fb9	138	4	Package Installed Version Required Version...	Please refer to Amazon advisory ALAS-2019-1194 (https://aws.amazon.com/advisories/aws-ec2-linux-2019-1194/)
Microsoft ASP.NET MVC Security Feature Bypass	i-0ae5947de9687e25e	131	4	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft ASP.NET\ASP.NET MVC 4\Assemblies\System.Web.Mvc.dll	Refer to MS14-059 (https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/advisory/2014-059)
	i-0c7c94db90c5b81e1	131	4	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft ASP.NET\ASP.NET MVC 4\Assemblies\System.Web.Mvc.dll	Refer to MS14-059 (https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/advisory/2014-059)

Vulnerabilities Fixed by Image (Update to latest image to fix)

Count: 4

Average Age: 103.00

Vulnerability	Host Name	A..	Sev	Detection Source	Solution
Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
Microsoft .NET Framework	i-0153de4a275c8ac33	103	4	KB4483484 or KB4483459 is not installed ..	Customers are advised to refer to CVE-2019-0613 (https://msrc.microsoft.com/updatecatalogs/cve-2019-0613)
Microsoft .NET Framework	i-0153de4a275c8ac33	103	4	KB4480086 or KB4800664 is not installed ..	Customers are advised to refer to CVE-2019-0545 (https://msrc.microsoft.com/updatecatalogs/cve-2019-0545)
Microsoft Windows Sec.	i-0153de4a275c8ac33	103	4	KB4487000 or KB4487028 is not installed ..	Customers are advised to refer to Microsoft Security Gu
Microsoft Windows Sec.	i-0153de4a275c8ac33	103	4	KB4480963 or KB4480964 is not installed ..	Customers are advised to refer to Microsoft Security Gu

Vulnerabilities TO BE Fixed by Image (No Action - next image release will have these fixed)

Count: 4

Vulnerability	Host Name	A.. #	Sev	Detection Source	Solution
Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
Microsoft Windows Security Update for Aug.-	i-0a33960e15532cc0e i-0d2087fb652c39524	26 26	5 5	KB4512517 is not installed .. KB4512488 is not installed ..	Please refer to the Security Update Guide (https://portal.azure.com/#view/Microsoft_Azure_Security_UpdateGuide_UpdateGuide~/Overview?product=Windows&updateId=KB4512517) Please refer to the Security Update Guide (https://portal.azure.com/#view/Microsoft_Azure_Security_UpdateGuide_UpdateGuide~/Overview?product=Windows&updateId=KB4512488)
Microsoft Windows Security Update for Re.	i-0a33960e15532cc0e i-0d2087fb652c39524	26 26	5 5	KB4512517 is not installed .. KB4512488 is not installed ..	Please refer to the Security Update Guide (https://portal.azure.com/#view/Microsoft_Azure_Security_UpdateGuide_UpdateGuide~/Overview?product=Windows&updateId=KB4512517) Please refer to the Security Update Guide (https://portal.azure.com/#view/Microsoft_Azure_Security_UpdateGuide_UpdateGuide~/Overview?product=Windows&updateId=KB4512488)

Q&A

Thank you!

